

I will be 60 in 4 days! Ah! think!



Dublin Feb. 15. 1864

Dear Mr May - Professor Cairnes
is a collector of American cartes
as well as himself. He lately asked
me to procure for him those of
Mrs Chapman & Lusk the Port.
Mrs C. sent me hers - and as the
name of the photographer is not on
the back I don't know where to look
for it. I wonder would she give
me one for Cairnes in consideration
of his services. Though I would rather
buy it than beg it. As to Lusk I
suppose there will be no difficulty. He
is one whose reputation in literary
circles is much the same on both
sides of the water. If you would
get me two good ones of him & send
them, charging me with them, I will
be much obliged. Many years ago
I sent you a capital sketch of
Lusk's sketching the table capers
& clowns. It was in a newspaper



and fill some columns. I used it
into a little book - parted down it
often and it with fresh amusement
of amusement at the cleverness
it contained. I suppose it is not to
be had in a more permanent
form, and, if not, perhaps not at
all.

The last news that reached us
spoke of Vice President Stephens &
others coming in peace commissioners
to treat with the Washington govern-
ment. If this be true it shows the
craft of Davis & Co. in making terms
while there is anything for them to
save. I hope there may be no treachery
I hope fraud may be in their hands,
and that his weakness may not be
too soft hearted towards his
enemies & the enemies of the
human race. I am glad to hear
that the Congress has agreed to adopt

the provisions for a Constitutional
abolition of Slavery. If Slavery
has really abolished - the South really
subdued & re-constructed, and no
punch was undertaken for objects
of vengeance or to satisfy notions
of pride, a few years will see
the U.S.A. what England used to
vainly boast of being, the glory of
the earth & the envy of other
nations. If I know myself I deprecate
any action less needlessly
undertaken by you. Quite as much
you are behalf of the world as
through you as on any measure as
merely selfish pursuit. There is being
that here now. The only influence of
interest to me (at least) comes from
across the Atlantic. - The parcel you
spoke of coming to me in your last letter
I have not yet heard of. - I used to hear
a little occasionally from E. Sumner but
of late he has cut any acquaintance &
certainly I have no equivalent to him for
his bright & sparkling spirit. Kind regards
to all your circle from your affectionately A.D. Webb

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MS. B. 1. 6 v. 15, p. 100